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Saturday, April 13, 2013

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Under Chavez's shadow, Venezuelans to pick new leader tomorrow



CARACAS (AFP) - With Hugo Chavez casting a religious-like shadow, Venezuelan voters tomorrow will choose between his handpicked successor Nicolas Maduro, who sees himself as the late leftist leader's "apostle" and an opponent vowing change.

The presidential election will cap a quick but bitter campaign that pitted Maduro, the acting president, against opposition leader Henrique Capriles in a nation divided by Chavez's oil-funded socialist revolution.

Anointed by Chavez as his political heir, Maduro is favored to complete the deceased leader's six-year term. He has cast himself as his men-

tor's "son" while promising to defend Chavez's popular health, education and food programs.

One month after Chavez died, many of his supporters vow to fulfill the last wish of their charismatic "comandante." The phrase "Chavez, I swear, my vote is for Maduro" is recited in songs and rallies, printed on T-shirts and street walls.

While the late president lifted millions of people out of poverty, his successor will inherit a country beset by South America's highest murder rate, with 16,000 homicides last year, and a fragile economy.

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Get ready for Fiesta Rotaria this Sunday, April 14

One of Aruba's most anticipated annual fundraising events is coming up this Sunday, April 14, Fiesta Rotaria, conducted by the Aruba chapter of Rotary Club International. The all day affair will begin at 9:00 AM on the grounds of the Cas Di Cultura at the east end of Oranjestad. The various booths and activities will occupy the surrounding streets and courtyard of the J.F. Kennedy school. It will end at 6:00 PM. Vacationers making their way to the airport should keep this in mind and take an alternate route, avoiding L.G. Smith Boulevard in Oranjestad.

This year is a particularly special edition, as Rotary Club of Aruba is celebrating 75 years of serving the community.

The Rotary club will continue to stage the many favorite activities that make the event so popular. The bargain basement flea market will be broken up into many sections; with separate areas for clothing and accessories - the supermarket, electronics, stationary and toys, plants and furniture - so lines to checkout will move faster. The ever-popular wheel of fortune, dunk tank and kid's corner, with games and dino jumps, will keep all ages enter-



tained. Several dance and singing groups such as Club Kibrahacha 60+ and Club di Movimiento will be performing on the main stage throughout the day. Final performances by popular local bands 2 Sweet, Dushie Band and Tsunami will provide a lively end to the day.

Inexpensive lunches, snacks and barbecue will be on sale, from Divi Resorts and Fusion Restaurant, as well as nine refreshments stands, to encourage attendees to spend the day and enjoy all the attractions. This is Rotary Club's #1 fundraising effort during the year, and 100% of the proceeds will go



to a number of foundations they support.

Continued on page 5



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Moving the Container Harbor to Barcadera will create space for Cruise Liners



Aruba does not want to pretend to be better than the Rotterdam wharf, but the construction to take place of a container and cargo wharf with more modern facilities, will fortify Aruba's position as a gateway for container transportation in the region. This, reportedly, is a very advantageous position for active navigation companies.

The majority of our wharf's activities take place at Paardenbaai, in the heart of Oran-

jestad. It is from there that large ships unload their cargo, but giant cruise ships also enter our wharf there. They are literally in each other's waters. Aruba expects a significant growth from both the container and cruise sectors in the upcoming years.

Not long ago there was a public tender for the construction of a container harbor at Barcadera. This is intended to be a bit higher up than where the wharf is currently, yet far

away from the busy traffic of the city. At Barcadera there is a small wharf where small boats coming from Latin America with fruits and vegetables moor. This wharf will be expanded to allow for the arrival of large container ships. Some 62 million dollars have been made available for this project.

Weekly Aruba receives ships from Miami, Rotterdam and from other large wharfs. These ships bring about 170 thousand containers to Aruba annually, which our population of more than 105 thousand and one and a half million tourists need.

However, the expected growth will be for the most part from transshipment: large vessels unloading their cargo to be loaded unto smaller vessels that can moor at the small wharf and from there be distributed to the region.

In combination with the Free Zone, the new container wharf will contribute greatly towards the development of the Gateway Aruba concept.

Moving the container activities to Barcadera will create more space for our cruise liners. Something that is very necessary at this time, as currently only three large ships and our smaller cruise ship can moor at the wharf.

Hence, the expansion of the wharf is no luxury in view of the rate of occupation over the month of January alone. The current wharf facility dates back to the 50's. Back then the first cruise passengers arrived here on the Liberator Ship, a ship containing both passengers and cargo combined.

After moving the container wharf, a very large plot of land will become vacant between the center of Oranjestad and the large hotels. This terrain will be designated for a wharf for yachts and for the construction of luxurious condominiums and for recreation areas such as an amphitheater and terraces.

Hyatt executives evaluate the operation of a 5-star hotel on Mainstreet



During a recent press conference held at the entrance of the wharf in which the government shared the positive results of tourism, Prime Minister Eman announced the news of yet another positive development in our tourism industry. The Prime Minister made reference to the visit of a delegation of executives of the international Hyatt hotel chain. Their visit here was to become familiar with and evaluate the potential operation of a 5-star property in the main street.

Several months ago it was announced that a parcel of land was purchased in the Main Street by a group of investors with the intention of building a "Business Hotel." While on the one hand the first phase of the project is moving ahead, such as the measuring and testing of the grounds, on the other hand they are occupied with finding a suitable operator for the hotel.

This week various representatives of the prestigious Hyatt Hotel chain arrived here to evaluate the possibility of becoming the operator of this main street hotel. They visited the location, talked to the investors, observed the designs, and will return to

their corporate offices to make a decision.

The government indicated that should Hyatt decide to develop this hotel, Aruba will achieve another very important milestone with such a 5-star property in the center of the city. This, they believe will elevate the level of the Caya Betico Croes to a shopping destination with luxurious pleasure.

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Winner of Digicel's 'One Rate' Campaign announced

Frida Orman receives her Samsung S2 from Digicel



Since the start of Digicel's 'One Rate Campaign' clients took advantage of the opportunity to talk unlimited for only 35 cents, not ...the communication red they are using. To make this campaign even more attractive clients could participate to win a brand new Samsung S2 cellular.

Frida Orman was the happy winner of the Samsung S2. She was among one of the many calls made to the radio station Power FM during the program of Ruben Garcia to give her

name for the campaign. To participate was super easy all one had to do was join the 'One Rate Campaign and give their name.

Digicel is very happy with the turnout of this campaign as many callers called to give their name and good comments of the 'One Rate' campaign.

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Dutch television program 'Het mooiste meisje van de klas' records at Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino



Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino recently hosted the production crew of Dutch television program 'Het mooiste meisje van de klas' produced by TROS. The program presented by Jaap Jongbloed features the lives of 8 different women who were the most beautiful girls of their class from 1970 until 1990. During the show they go back to their childhood, remember their youth, hear testimonials of former classmates, and share their past experience and present life. The special recording in Aruba at the Renaissance Mall and Renaissance Island featured twin sisters; one who lives in Aruba and the other one residing in Holland. On pictures, some behind the scenes images.



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Enjoy a unique show and support Aruba's special athletes during "Special Olympics Awareness Month"



Special Olympics show team, Karel Williams, Arturo Werleman and Carole Pesqueira

This year, Aruba's Special Olympics Committee and athletes have a special program planned for the upcoming Special Olympics Awareness Month of May. Special Olympics Aruba is celebrating 13 years of achievement; Committee President Arturo Werleman and National Director Karel Williams invited all the

community to enjoy a departure from their usual activities by attending a unique performance at the Cas di Cultura, Saturday and Sunday, May 11 and 12.

This year, to demonstrate the versatility and capabilities of Aruba's special athletes, well-known dancer and choreographer Carol Pesqueira



Special Athletes and performers

has volunteered her time to devising a program and training the enthusiastic athletes in several entertaining dance and musical numbers.

The program is an hour-long variety show of singing and dancing from folkloric to rap, with something to please every member of the family.

It is suggested that Sunday's matinee, beginning at 4:00 PM, would be an ideal way to surprise island mothers on their special day, while demonstrating their support for a worthy cause. Saturday's program begins at 8:00 PM. 80 singers and dancers from Aruba make up the performing group "Nos Por" (We Can) and a group of visiting dancers from Curacao called D'Art are also on the program.

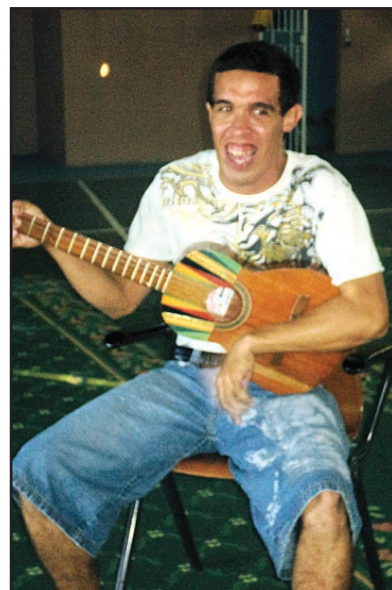
This is the first time the Special Olympics Committee has organized such an original program for Special Olympics Awareness Month and they expressed the hope to see an excellent turnout for what will be a most enjoyable and surprising evening or afternoon.



Tasmania band practices on their instruments

Tickets are 25 Aruban florins, which will fund various programs conducted by the Special Olympics Committee; tickets are available through all the board members. They are also being sold at Van Dorp Bookstore in Dakota and at Post Aruba Office in San Nicolas. For more information and to obtain tickets contact Arturo Werleman at telephone number 730-0414 or 742-3306, or e-mail arturowerleman@gmail.com to order tickets.

Rosalie Klein



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Get ready for Fiesta Rotaria

Continued from page 1



Principally: Club Kibrahacha, 60+ social and learning center for retirees, which was founded by the Rotary, the YMCA and the Aruba Foundation for Autism, to name a few.

Again this year, a major portion of the funds will be raised with the sale of tickets for the Rotary Club annual Raffle offering a grand prize of a 2013 Mazda BT-50 single cabin pickup with 5 speed manual transmission. Other great prizes are:

2nd: Cruise for 2 from Maduro Travel

3rd: 50" Panasonic Plasma HDTV from AMC Unicon

4th: 2 Tickets Aruba-Ams-terdam-Aruba with KLM

5th: A 16GV factory unlocked iPhone5 from Boolchand's

6th: 1,500 fl gift certificate from Hagemeyer

7th: 1,500 gift certificate from Kooyman

8th: 1,500 Compa Leon Money card from CMB

9th: 1,500 gift certificate from Boolchand's

10th: 1,000 gift certificate from Ling & Sons Market

The raffle drawing will take place promptly at 5:00 PM.

Those wishing to volunteer their time for this event are welcome to call Diego Frankel at 734-9119. The entire community is urged to come and find great bargains, entertainment and fun while assisting worthy causes at Fiesta Rotaria 2013.

Rosalie Klein

Portugal citizenship offer to repair medieval expulsion of Jews

LISBON (AFP) - Portugal's parliament unanimously passed a law yesterday offering citizenship to descendants of Jews persecuted and ordered expelled in the 15th century.

The legislation sought to repair the effects of a decree issued in 1497 by Portugal's king Manuel I that ordered all Jews out of the country unless they converted to Christianity.

A deputy in Portugal's ruling coalition, Jose Ribeiro e Castro, called the law's passage a "historic day".

"We want to once again welcome all those who never should have had to leave," he said.

The expulsion order for Portugal's Jews -- followed by a 1506 massacre of 2,000 converted Jews in Lisbon, then a Portuguese Inquisition as fearsome for those deemed non-Christian as the Spanish one -- was long seen as a black mark in the European country's history.

In 1989, then-president Mario Soares asked forgive-

ness from Jews for the persecutions their forebears suffered in Portugal.

The Jews who departed Portugal in the 15th and 16th centuries dispersed to other countries, including northern Europe, northern Africa, and to Turkey and Brazil.

Neighbouring Spain, which lived a similar history, is also trying to make up for its medieval persecution of Jews. Madrid has said it, too, is considering a citizenship offer to descendants of its ousted Jews.

'Sandy' removed from hurricane name list

GENEVA (AFP) - The destruction caused by Hurricane Sandy has prompted the World Meteorological Organization to remove the name from a rotating list of storm titles, the UN agency said yesterday.

"Sandy" will be replaced by "Sara" after meteorologists decided that the future use of the name could be upsetting.

Sandy tore through the Caribbean before slamming into the east coast of the United States in late October, killing nearly 300 people in the

region and resulted in economic losses of more than \$75 billion in the United States alone.

The decision to retire "Sandy" and use "Sara" the next time its turn comes in the rotation, in 2018, was made by the WMO's hurricane committee at its annual meeting in Curacao, in the Caribbean.

The committee yesterday also adopted a report that includes a section on how to improve warnings about post-tropical cyclones like Sandy.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Lawyer: Italy shipwreck pre-trial hearings until July



ROME (AFP) - A series of pre-trial hearings into the Costa Concordia shipwreck starting on Monday is expected to last until July before a judge rules on formal indictments and a trial can begin, a lawyer said.

"There are 40 hearings planned in April, May and July," said Giuliano Leuzzi, who works for the consumer group Codacons which is suing ship owner Costa Crociere on behalf of some survivors.

"The judge then needs to decide whether there are enough elements for indictments," Leuzzi said at a press conference ahead of the hearings.

The Costa Concordia crashed into the Tuscan island of Giglio with 4,229 people from 70 countries on board, prompting a panicked and chaotic evacuation. The disaster claimed 32 lives.

Prosecutors have presented charges against six people including captain Francesco Schettino, the head of Costa Crociere's crisis unit Roberto Ferrarini and the ship's Indonesian helmsman Jacob Rusli Bin, who is no longer in the country.

Costa Crociere negotiated a plea bargain in which it accepted limited responsibility as the employer of the suspects and paid a one million euro (\$1.3 million) fine in a controversial ruling on Wednesday

by judge Valeria Montesarchio.

The company -- Europe's biggest cruise operator and a subsidiary of US-based giant Carnival Corp -- has now been excluded from the criminal case, although it can still be pursued in civil court.

Watch out speedsters: Dubai cops get Lamborghinis



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, Dubai : Emirati policemen patrol in a Lamborghini Aventador near Burj Khalifa in the Gulf emirate of Dubai on April 12, 2013. A sleek \$550,000 Lamborghini Aventador, which can reach 60 mph in under three seconds and reach speeds of up to 349 km/h (217 mph), has joined the Dubai police department's fleet of patrol cars to enhance the glitzy Gulf emirate's trademark image of luxury and prosperity. It will also help promote tourism and showcase the security role the Dubai police plays in safeguarding the city.

(AFP PHOTO)

Venezuelans to pick new leader tomorrow

Continued from page 1

Maduro, a former bus driver and union activist who rose to foreign minister and vice president under Chavez, enjoyed leads of as much as 20 percentage points over Capriles in opinion polls.

The most recent survey by the Datanalisis polling firm, published Thursday by Credit Suisse bank, gave him a 9.7-point lead. The poll was conducted between April 1-5.

"Maduro did not win over new followers, though he was not looking for new ones. He is presenting himself not as a candidate, but as a vehicle for Chavez and his legacy," said Luis Vicente Leon, director of the Datanalisis polling firm.

The two candidates closed their campaigns with huge rallies on Thursday, with Maduro tearfully pledging to be the "president of the poor" before throngs of followers in Car-

cas.

During the campaign, Maduro adopted Chavez's bombastic rhetoric, calling Capriles a "little bourgeois" while alleging that former US officials were conspiring to assassinate him. He drew the opposition's ridicule by saying that Chavez's spirit had visited him in the form of a bird.

While Chavistas pledge their vote for Maduro, many warn that they will not hand him a blank check.

Capriles, the energetic 40-year-old governor of Miranda state, is running in his second presidential election in six months after losing to Chavez by 11 points in October -- the opposition's best result against the socialist leader.

While he has promised to continue Chavez's social "missions," Capriles wants to cut the government's deal with

Cuba in which Caracas ships 100,000 barrels of oil per day while Havana sends doctors and other experts to Caracas.

"Make no mistake, next Sunday is time to open a new cycle and change this situation," Capriles, who is offering a business-friendly alternative modeled after Brazil's center-left policies, said at his last campaign rally late Thursday.

German Campos, director of pollsters Consultores 30.11, said Capriles will not be able to close the gap before the election.

Meanwhile, in the US Venezuelans trekked far for presidential vote

By plane, train and automobile, Venezuelans in the southern United States headed this weekend to their national consulate in the city of New Orleans to vote in tomorrow's presidential election.

Thousands rally for Tymoshenko release in the Ukraine

KHARKIV (AFP) - More than 5,000 protesters rallied in Kharkiv yesterday calling for former premier Yulia Tymoshenko to be released from jail in the first major show of opposition in the eastern Ukrainian city where she is serving her sentence.

The protest went ahead despite a local court order banning the demonstration and dozens of public transport vehicles blocking the rally's passage, an AFP journalist on the scene reported.

Tymoshenko, who lost a heated presidential election to Viktor Yanukovich in 2010, was jailed for seven years in 2011 on charges of overstepping her authority while prime minister by agreeing a gas deal with Russia.

A new fraud and tax evasion trial against Tymoshenko has dragged on for nearly a



year in Kharkiv with hearings repeatedly postponed due to her absence for medical reasons. The opposition leader has denounced the trial as a political vendetta on the part of President Yanukovich.

The court meanwhile postponed the hearing against Tymoshenko until April 23 due to her absence, as the opposition leader's defence demanded that the case against her be closed.

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International News

BBC in death song ding-dong with Thatcher fans

LONDON (AFP) - The BBC came under pressure on Friday to ban the Wizard of Oz song "Ding-Dong! The Witch is Dead" from its airwaves as it surged towards the top of the British charts following the death of former prime minister Margaret Thatcher.

Opponents of the "Iron Lady" launched an Internet campaign to push the song from the much-loved film "The Wizard of Oz" to number one after the country's first female premier died on Monday of a stroke at the age of 87.

The publicly-funded BBC, the world's largest broadcasting organisation, has not commented yet on whether it will play the song on the radio when the weekly chart comes out on Sunday -- three days before Thatcher's high-profile funeral.

John Whittingdale, a Conservative lawmaker who chairs parliament's Culture, Media and Sport committee, said the song should not be played.

The Official Charts Company said the song was at number three on Thursday, currently closing the gap on the chart leader by 2,000 copies a day but still 12,000 behind.

Britain's right-wing Daily Mail and Daily Telegraph newspapers have led moves to have the song banned.

The Mail called it an "insult to Maggie".

The Daily Telegraph reported that new BBC chief Tony Hall, whose predecessor resigned last year following the scandal over late paedophile television host Jimmy Savile, has refused to ban the song and told staff further down the chain it is an "editorial decision".

Songs the BBC has previously banned include "Je T'aime... Moi Non Plus" by Serge Gainsbourg and Jane Birkin (1969), "God Save the Queen" by the Sex Pistols (1977) and "Relax" by Frankie Goes to Hollywood (1983).

Baroness Thatcher has proved as polarising in death as she was in life.

French Senate adopts gay marriage law

PARIS (AFP) - France's upper house Senate voted yesterday to adopt a landmark bill granting homosexual couples the right to marry and adopt, after a heated debate and protests from conservatives and religious groups.

The vote, by a show of hands, puts the bill on track to become law after technical second readings in both

houses.

Justice Minister Christiane Taubira hailed the Senate vote, saying it had strengthened French society "by granting the simple recognition of full citizenship to homosexual couples."

The bill came under vehement attack in a country that is officially secular but predominantly Catholic, mobilising

hundreds of thousands of people in pro- and anti-gay marriage protests nationwide.

Opponents had said they would organise another mass protest in Paris on May 26 if the law was approved, to demand its withdrawal and a referendum on gay marriage.

The bill was largely supported by the ruling Socialists, their allies in the Green Party

and the Communists, and opposed by the main opposition UMP and other right-wing parties.

Rights group SOS Homophobie said this week it had registered a 30 percent rise in reports of assaults on homosexuals last year compared to 2011, with a marked surge when debate began in the autumn.

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Health & Living

Bird flu vaccine 'many months' away: US experts

SHANGHAI (AFP) - US public health experts said developing a vaccine for the H7N9 strain of bird flu could take "many months", as China seeks to control an outbreak which had killed 10 people by Friday.

Chinese authorities have confirmed 38 human cases of H7N9 avian influenza since announcing nearly two weeks ago that they had found the strain in humans for the first time.

Writing in the New England Journal of Medicine, Timothy Uyeki and Nancy Cox of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said worldwide efforts to develop a vaccine had started, but it would take time.

China said this week it expects to have a vaccine ready in seven months.

Chinese health officials say they do not know exactly how the virus is spreading, but it is believed to be crossing to humans from birds.

The journal article said the outbreak was a "seminal event" that raised global concerns and it urged China to enhance surveillance.

Experts fear the prospect of such viruses mutating into a form easily transmissible between humans, which has the

potential to trigger a pandemic.

The World Health Organization (WHO) said on Monday that there was no evidence of human-to-human transmission.

Shanghai, which has the majority of confirmed cases, was the first to halt trading in live poultry and cull birds last week, followed by other cities in eastern China -- the site of the outbreak.

The United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on Thursday expressed worry over the possible spread of H7N9 to China's neighbours through infected poultry.

Japan on Friday gave itself new powers aimed at curbing outbreaks of infectious diseases in people, as it nervously watches the spread of H7N9 bird flu in neighbouring China.

Under a new law, the government can strengthen quarantines at airports, vaccinate doctors and government officials, shut schools and cancel events with large numbers of people.

China has earned international approval for its transparency for H7N9, after being accused of covering up Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in 2003.

Worlds first womb transplant woman is pregnant: hospital

ISTANBUL (AFP) - The first woman ever to receive a uterus from a deceased donor, is two-weeks pregnant following a successful embryo transplant, her doctors said on Friday.

The 22-year-old Derya Sert was revealed to be almost two-weeks pregnant in preliminary results after in vitro fertilisation at Akdeniz University Hospital in Turkey's southern province of Antalya, her doctor Mustafa Unal said in a written statement.

Sert was described as a "medical miracle" when she became the first woman in the world to have a successful womb transplant from a dead donor in August 2011 at the same Antalya hospital.

The groundbreaking news of her pregnancy will rekindle hopes for thousands of childless women across the world who are unable to bear their own babies.

Sert was born without a uterus, like one in every 5,000 women around the world, and her doctors waited 18 months before implanting the embryo to make sure the foreign organ was still functioning.

Hers was the second womb transplant to be performed in the world, the first being in Saudi Arabia in 2000 from a

living donor, which failed after 99 days due to heavy clotting. Doctors had to remove the organ.

The baby is expected to be delivered via C-section and the uterus to be removed from Sert in the months following the birth to avoid further complications and the risk of rejection.

The young woman had started to menstruate after the transplant, which her doctors had said was an important signal that the womb was functional.

Experts however warn the pregnancy carries several health risks to the patient as well as to the baby, including birth defects due to the use of immunosuppressive drugs as well as preterm delivery.

Pakistani Taliban deny anti-polio attacks

MIRANSHAH (AFP) - The Pakistani Taliban on Friday denied any involvement in attacks on polio workers, which have killed 21 people since December, but confirmed it opposed the vaccination as "un-Islamic."

The umbrella militant faction last year banned polio vaccinations in the tribal region of Waziristan, alleging the campaign was a cover for espionage.

Rumours about vaccines being a plot to sterilise Muslims have also dogged efforts to tackle the highly infectious disease in Pakistan, one of only three countries where it remains endemic.

Polio cases in Pakistan hit 198 in 2011, the highest figure for more than a decade and the most of any country in the world, according to the UN.

Afghanistan and Nigeria are the only two other countries where the disease is endemic.

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Sci-Tech

Twitter acquires music site, could launch new service

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Twitter said it acquired the emerging music software firm We Are Hunted, amid reports that the popular messaging platform was readying its own music service.

"Welcome to Twitter! @wearehunted," a tweet from the company said late Thursday.

San Francisco-based We Are Hunted was launched in 2007 in Australia, and allows its users to follow emerging music trends and artists. Its software continuously updates lists of top music around the world.

Neither company indicated plans, but the We Are Hunted site strongly hinted the deal means Twitter will be launching a long-rumored music application.

"There's no question that Twitter and music go well together," a statement posted on the wearehunted.com site said.

"Artists turn to Twitter first to connect with fans, and people share and discover new songs and albums every day. We can't wait to share what we've been working on at Twitter. We wish we could say but we're not yet ready to talk about it. You'll hear more from us when we are."

For now, the existing service will be shut, the statement said.

The Dow Jones-owned website AllThingsD said the music service could be launched as soon as this weekend at Coachella music festival in California.

The report said users will be able to listen to clips of music from inside the app, using third-party services and watch music videos from Vevo, which is operated by Universal Music and Sony.



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36 killed in three weeks of flooding in Kenya

NAIROBI (AFP) - Thirty-six people have died in three weeks of flooding in Kenya and more than 2,000 families have been displaced, a senior civil servant said Thursday.

Heavy rains have led to "the loss of 36 lives, 2,393 households displaced and the loss of property and infrastructure," the second-in-command at the Special Programmes Ministry Andrew Mondoh told journalists.

But he said the heavy rains had also had positive effects.

"Water sources have recharged, pasture has regenerated and farmers have taken advantage of the rains to plant," said Mondoh, whose ministry is tasked mainly with preventing and managing natural disasters.

Roads and property have been damaged in most parts of the country, Mondoh said.

"The government is currently distributing food and non-food items," in areas hard hit by flooding, he said, citing among others the Tana River area in Coast province, Garissa in the east and Kisumu and Homa Bay in western Kenya.

DNA scientist's Nobel medal sells for \$2.27 million

NEW YORK (AFP) - The 1962 Nobel Prize medal awarded to DNA discoverer Francis Crick sold Thursday in New York for \$2.27 million, a day after a letter Crick wrote went for a record \$6 million.

The Physiology or Medicine prize medal sold at Heritage

Auctions in Manhattan to Jack Wang, CEO of Chinese biomedical company Biomobie, the auction house said.

Britain's Crick received the prize along with his DNA co-discoverer James Dewey Watson, and Maurice Hugh Frederick Wilkins.

Part of the proceeds are being given to a new Francis Crick Institute in London.

On Wednesday, a letter written by Crick to his 12-year-old son telling him about having discovered the structure of DNA sold at Christie's for just over \$6 million.



WASHINGTON (AFP) - The Washington Monument is seen with cherry blossoms at the Tidal Basin yesterday. 3,000 Japanese cherry trees burst into full bloom marking the start of spring. Thousands of visitors attended the National Cherry Blossom Festival, cramming the narrow walkways of Washington's Tidal Basin for a peek at the famed pink flowers. Gregory O'Dell, president of DC Events, which organizes Washington's cherry blossom festivities, said the celebration even though a little later than usual due to an unusual cold spell this year brings in more than \$100 million to the city. The month-long festival includes an array of cultural events, concerts, art exhibits and, as its highlight, the famous Cherry Blossom Parade.

COMICS

PICKLES



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ACROSS

1. Gorilla or chimpanzee
4. House's top floor, sometimes
9. "Only ____"
12. Fruit seed
13. Wading bird
14. High school subj.
15. Kept close (4 wds.)
18. Southern greeting
19. Manning of

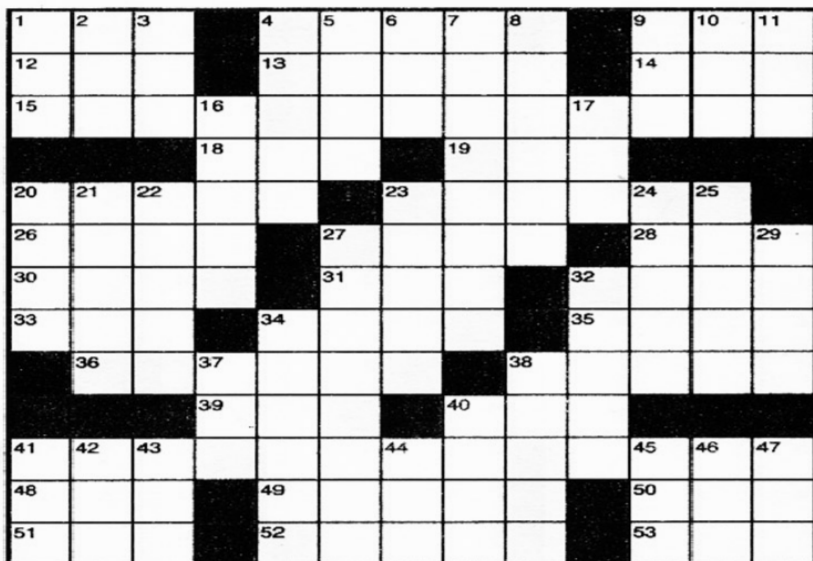
20. Dinner course
23. European country
26. Was indebted to
27. Mock
28. Mature
30. Stardom
31. Radio spots
32. Nautical salute
33. Ring decision (abbr.)
34. Oversupply
35. Look on with astonishment
36. Catch in a lure
38. Wines and ____
39. Plant juice
40. Dec. follower
41. McDonald's

48. Feel pain
49. Serpentine
50. Chicago trains
51. Tachometer letters
52. Alps song
53. New York time (abbr.)

DOWN

1. GI's address (abbr.)
2. Bowling ball target
3. Clean air agcy.
4. Longed
5. Helen of ____
6. Blacktop
7. Concern
8. Wine storage
9. Nay's opposite

10. Switch positions
11. "Gross!"
16. Lamp covering
17. German "one"
20. Downy
21. Conscious
22. Yellow fruit
23. Sick and tired (2 wds.)
24. "Over There" composer
25. Wed secretly
27. Common Tex-Mex ingredient
29. Rit products
32. Geriatrics concern
34. Like a knoll
37. Mao ____ -tung
38. Hannah of "Short Cuts"
40. "____ Box Saturday Night"
41. Plymouth product
42. With it
43. Shade tree
44. "Too ____!"
45. Wide shoe width
46. "Treasure Island" monogram
47. Former fast jet (abbr.)



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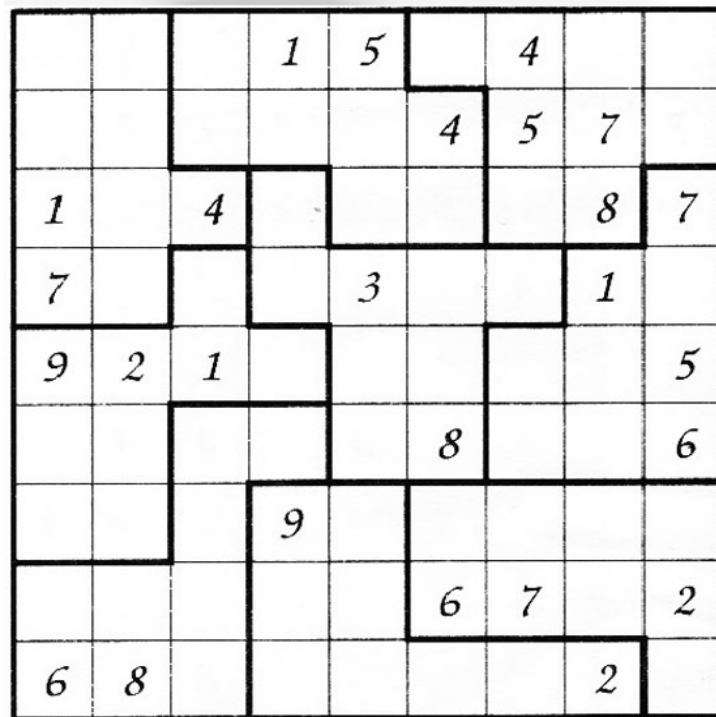
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

6	2	1	5	4	3	8	7	9
7	5	8	9	6	1	2	3	4
8	7	9	6	2	3	4	5	1
9	6	2	3	4	5	1	2	3
5	8	7	9	6	1	2	3	4
7	5	8	9	6	1	2	3	4
4	8	6	2	3	5	7	9	1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	9	7	5	1	4	6	8	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Finance

Netherlands postpones austerity measures to favour growth

THE HAGUE (AFP) - The Dutch government said Friday it will postpone some austerity measures in the hope of stimulating growth while respecting its European Union obligations.

"This is a deal that will contribute to reestablishing trust in our economy," Liberal Prime Minister Mark Rutte told journalists after a cabinet meeting.

He said that the priority nevertheless remained "putting government accounts in order."

The Netherlands is traditionally pro-fiscal discipline and austerity measures, like Germany, announcing on March 1 that it would slash its 2014 budget by a further 4.3 billion euros (\$5.6 billion) to respect a 3-percent of GDP European Union deficit limit.

Centre-right premier Rutte said the situation will be reevaluated in September to decide if the austerity measures should in fact be implemented, in part or in whole.

He justified the decision by saying that the economy had shown a slight improvement, notably in terms of exports.

"When we finalise the 2014 budget (in September), the government will evaluate whether the economic growth... will be sufficient not to apply these extra (austerity) measures," the government said in a statement.

Rutte's announcement follows an agreement with social partners, including unions, concluded late on Thursday night.

That deal, which must still be approved by parliament, includes postponing a planned reduction in the amount and

duration of unemployment benefits until 2016.

According to official figures used by the government for its budget and published before March 1, the deficit will be 3.3 percent of GDP in 2013, and 3.4 percent in 2014.

The deficit stood at 4.1 percent in 2012.

The Netherlands is one of just four eurozone countries still to have a triple-A rating from the three major agencies.

Its economy is dependent on the health of other economies because it is largely export based.

US gives Japan nod for mega trade pact

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States gave Japan the green light Friday to enter talks on a Pacific trade agreement, in a key step forward for a pact that would account for nearly 40 percent of the global economy.

The two countries announced concessions for Japan to join negotiations on the 11-nation, US-driven Trans-Pacific Partnership, despite opposition from some US manufacturers and labor groups and Japan's powerful farmers.

Under the Trans-Pacific Partnership guidelines, all 11 nations engaged in the negotiations need to approve before Japan participates. Japan must still win over Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Peru.

Japan's entrance into talks "is good for the US, it's good for the Trans-Pacific Partnership as a whole, and it's very good for the multilateral trading system

itself," senior White House official Mike Froman told reporters.

Acting US Trade Representative Demetrios Marantis said Japan had made promises to ease the concerns of US automakers, which fear being crushed at home by their Japanese competition under a free trade deal.

Japan agreed that US tariffs on Japanese cars would be phased out at the latest possible time allowed by a future accord.

The car tariffs would also "substantially exceed" the levels in the free trade agreement between the United States and South Korea that went into force in March 2012 after exhaustive talks, Marantis said.

In turn, the United States will talk to Japan about non-tariff barriers it believes keep out US cars, such as untrans-

parent regulations, and Japan would raise from 2,000 to 5,000 the number of cars certified each year under a fast-track program.

The US Congress must ultimately approve a free trade agreement and Japan's entrance has faced opposition from several members of President Barack Obama's Democratic Party.

Representative Sandy Levin, the top Democrat on the House Ways and Means Committee critical to passing any trade bill, said Japan's 3,000-car certification increase was so small it was "a meaningless gesture."

But the Obama administration's acceptance of Japan was welcomed by Republicans and some Democrats including Senator Max Baucus, who chairs the key Senate Finance Committee.

Those with deposits above 100,000 euros will now likely pay even more, with the restructuring of the banking sector estimated to ultimately yield up to 10.6 billion euros.

Tax hikes and the sale of gold reserves -- expected to bring in 400 million euros -- are also a part of the plan.

In Nicosia, the Cypriot government spokesman said savers will not be hit by a "de facto new recapitalisation," or 'haircut' on deposits.

The first aid payment to Cyprus should be possible in May, the ministers said.

The agreement to extend maturities for Ireland and Portugal will be crucial for Lisbon, the recipient of a 78-billion-euro bailout in 2011 but whose Constitutional Court last week ruled that several measures in the 2013 budget were unlawful.

That ruling will make it difficult for the government to reduce the public deficit to 5.5 percent of gross domestic product (GDP), which it pledged to do to remain eligible for funds under its EU-IMF bailout.

Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho announced cuts scheduled for 2014 would be brought forward to try to plug the 1.3-billion-euro gap caused by the court ruling.

Both Ireland and Portugal had been pushing for the extension on the grounds that they had stuck closely to the terms of their bailout programmes and had made most progress in being able to return to the financial markets to raise funds conventionally.

More talks through Saturday were to centre on moves to clamp down on tax fraud across the EU that have isolated Austria.

The EU's biggest states -- Germany, France, Britain, Italy, Spain and Poland -- are coordinating moves they hope will culminate in a deal at a May summit on automatic bank data sharing across borders.

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Eurozone approves problematic Cyprus bailout

DUBLIN (AFP) - Eurozone finance ministers formally approved Friday the terms of a problematic Cyprus debt rescue that will cost Nicosia far more than first thought.

After the Cyprus crisis raised fresh worries over the future of the single currency, EU finance ministers agreed that bailed-out Ireland and Portugal be rewarded for making economic progress by being given more time to repay their debts.

The two nations won an extra seven years to repay the aid they received to save them from collapse, pending legal guarantees from the Portuguese government that it will meet deficit targets in the future.

Dutch Finance Minister Jeroen Dijsselbloem, who heads the Eurogroup of finance ministers from the euro nations, said they wanted to ease the pressure on both countries. The move was approved together with their 10 non-euro counterparts.

Dijsselbloem also said ministers had formally approved a March 25 rescue accord between Cyprus and its international creditors -- the International Monetary Fund, European Commission and European Central Bank.

It had appeared earlier Friday that Cyprus wanted additional aid after leaked documents indicated a sharp increase in the overall amount needed to 23 billion euros (\$30

bn) from the 17 billion euros agreed last month.

But the European Union's Economic Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn said the lower figure was net and the higher, gross financing needs -- with "additional financial buffers ... to allow for unexpected fiscal developments and banking sector needs."

Rehn said that regular EU structural funds, used to boost the economy and planned seven years at a time, could be brought forward and re-directed to help Cyprus.

He warned that accurately forecasting the depth of the recession underway in Cyprus was impossible, saying the economy could shrink up to 15 percent this year alone.

Under last month's bailout accord, Cyprus was to come up with 7.0 billion euros and its creditors, known as the Troika, 10 billion euros.

Selling gold reserves was one option, said ECB head Mario Draghi, who attended the talks.

The Cyprus bailout is proving a milestone in the eurozone crisis, with small bank depositors, who had thought themselves protected by an EU guarantee, at one point asked to cough up some of their savings to help fund the rescue.

The move sparked an uproar, forcing officials to beat a retreat and spare those with less than 100,000 euros in deposits.

Those with deposits above

100,000 euros will now likely pay even more, with the restructuring of the banking sector estimated to ultimately yield up to 10.6 billion euros.

Tax hikes and the sale of gold reserves -- expected to bring in 400 million euros -- are also a part of the plan.

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YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

E	M	T		L	I	D		A	R	E
K	I	A		D	E	S	I	S	L	E
E	L	K		E	O	N	S	T	A	N
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			M	I	S		P	U	F	F
P	Y	R	A	M	I	D		A	M	I
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S	C	I	F	I		N	A	S	T	I
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			E	M	I	T		R	O	P
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L	O	U	S		K	L	U	M		M
S	U	M		Y	E	N		S	S	A

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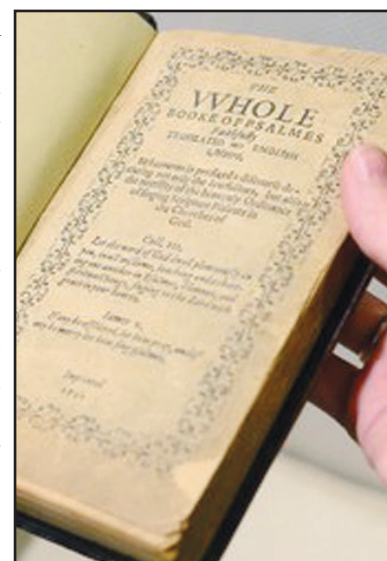
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First printed book in America to be auctioned

NEW YORK (AFP) - A translation of Biblical psalms that was the first book ever printed in what became the United States goes on auction this November, with an expected price tag of \$15-30 million, Sotheby's said Friday in New York.

The book is one of the best of the 11 surviving copies of "The Bay Psalm Book," which Puritan settlers from England printed in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1640 -- before the United States even existed.

The settlers, who were seeking religious freedom, wanted chiefly to issue their own preferred translation from the Hebrew original of the Old Testament book, rather than the one they had brought across the Atlantic.



However, the volume took on even greater significance, David Redden, the head of Sotheby's books, said.

"The Bay Psalm Book' was not only the first book printed in America, and the first book written in America. This little book of 1640 was precursor to Lexington and Concord, and, ultimately, to American political independence. With it, New England declared its independence from the Church of England," he said.

Selby Kiffer, with Sotheby's special projects department, called "The Bay Psalm Book" "not simply one of the great icons of book history, it is one of the greatest artifacts of American history."

No copy from the edition has appeared at auction since 1947, when a different copy fetched \$151,000 -- a record at the time for any book, including the Gutenberg Bible or Shakespeare's First Folio.

"The Bay Psalm Book' is a mythical rarity. Unseen on the marketplace for more than two generations, it has become too rare to collect," Redden said.

The book is being sold by the Old South Church in Boston to benefit its work in the historic city's area, Sotheby's said. The same church possesses another copy of the "Bay Psalm Book."

Vatican says financial reform report due in December



VATICAN CITY (AFP) - The Vatican said Wednesday the next report by the Council of Europe on its efforts to bring its laws into line with international rules against money laundering is due out in December.

The progress report by the Moneyval monitoring committee will also look at the

Vatican's implementation of all recommendations, not just the "key recommendations" in its July 2012 report.

The Vatican last year promised to redouble its efforts to reform its scandal-plagued bank and overhaul financial legislation following an Italian inquiry into alleged money laundering.

In that report, the Vatican scored satisfactory ratings in nine out of 16 key recommendations and unsatisfactory ratings in the remaining seven.

The report stressed in particular the importance of independent supervision of the Vatican's bank, the Institute for Religious Works or IOR.

The Vatican bank has a troubled history including in the 1970s and 1980s when it was accused of helping to launder money for the Sicilian mafia.

After Italian prosecutors launched another inquiry in

2011, then pope Benedict XVI created a new financial authority to reform the bank.

The authority aims to put the Vatican on a "white list" of countries that cooperate with efforts against money laundering drawn up by the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The Bolivian "quinoa road"



CHALLAPATA (AFP) - : An indigenous woman sells dishes made with quinoa at a stall in Challapata, southern Bolivia, on April 11, 2013. The Bolivian government promotes the "quinoa road", a 1500 km (940 miles) network of roads linking the departments of La Paz, Oruro and Potosi, where 48,500 tons of the cereal are planted each year. The goal is to reach one million tons of quinoa, worth one billion dollars, per year in the next ten years, officials said. Bolivia produces 70% of the world's quinoa. FAO recognizes the crop is an strategic food to eradicate hunger and declared 2013 as "International Year of the Quinoa".

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Aruba's most successful developers of secure, superior communities for both the permanent and part time resident market, will soon break ground on what they consider their most exclusive project to date. Known for 16 years of unmatched quality and service, the Cas Bon people are proud to unveil their new pet

project: O Condominiums. This is the same company which developed the innovative Gold Coast Villas community in Malmok.

Renowned for reliable construction, developers of O Condominiums consider the boutique community will be the "jewel in the crown" of the nine projects they have successfully completed and

maintain. It is only three stories and twenty luxurious units, of which 14 will be oceanfront, the remainder, ocean view. Sizes range from one bedroom condominiums with a bath and a half to three-bedrooms, each bedroom with its own bath, and an additional guest half/bath. The designs include a family entertainment room that will

be specially fitted with electronic and Internet connections and outlets enabling a state-of-the-art-home theater. An important aspect of this singular facility is owners have various options to customize kitchens and fixtures to their particular tastes and standards.

Each apartment sports an extremely spacious 35 square meter covered terrace overlooking the sea. Windows will be double-paned and doors have weather stripping to insure less cost on air-conditioning, which is integrated into construction. Homeowners will have input into the finishing they prefer in the kitchen and other rooms, to customize your condominium to your taste. Public amenities will include an elegant pool deck,

concierge services, lounge area, BBQ station, fitness room, assigned parking, additional outside storage for bicycles and personal items, and 24-hour security. A quiet, secluded section of Eagle beach is only a few steps from the front door.

O Condominiums officially opened the doors of their sales office onsite at Eagle Beach on December 24. Interested parties can inspect the project in a spacious plot right next to the gourmet Screaming Eagle restaurant. The project is directed towards discerning clients seeking a top quality property on Aruba in an ideal, tranquil, beachfront location. Prospective property owners will find the Cas Bon people enjoy an exceptional reputation on Aruba for excellence and reliability.

Contact the sales office at 297-732-0000/ 297-287-5300 or visit their website: <http://www.o-eaglebeach.aruba.com>

Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Keshi Yena with plaintains, vegetables and pica

-- An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varella Innocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine:

The Queen's.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won this charming

eatery their loyal clientele. Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena - "Full Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of

chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

Seafood main courses of Catch of the Day Aruban Style to shrimp and a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef

Grilled Tenderloin, each including a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local. **They are open from**

11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining.

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from an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!

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SPORTS

Golf: History-maker Guan in penalty-stroke drama at Masters



AUGUSTA (AFP) - (AFP) - Chinese teen wonder Guan Tianlang was at the center of a drama at the Masters on Friday when he was hit with a one-stroke penalty for slow play on the penultimate hole of his second round. The penalty brought the 14-year-old schoolboy in at four-over par 148, endangering his chances of making the cut and playing in the final two rounds at the weekend. The 14-year-old amateur from Guangzhou became the youngest player in the history of the Masters on Thursday when he carded a one-over 73 that included four birdies and five bogeys.

Football: Dream Barca, Real final possible after semis draw

NYON (AFP) - The prospect of a dream all-Spanish Champions League final between Barcelona and Real Madrid next month remains alive after Friday's semi-final draw.

But Bayern Munich and Borussia Dortmund can also set up an all-German affair in the Wembley title showdown.

Last year's beaten finalists Bayern, who have already secured the Bundesliga title, take on Spanish league leaders Barcelona in one semi-final.

In the other tie, Borussia will play Real Madrid, as representatives of Europe's current dominant footballing powers go head-to-head.

Remarkably, the four semi-finalists can boast a total of 18 European titles between them.

Real lead the way with nine victories, although their last success dates back to 2002.

Their arch-rivals Barcelona

and Bayern both have four and Borussia weigh in with their single victory in 1997 when they upset favourites Juventus 3-1 in the final.

Neutral fans were probably hoping for a Bayern v Barcelona final, promising a feast of football between arguably the continent's top two teams of the moment.

The semi-final is given added piquancy in that former Barca coach Pep Guardiola is to take over the helm at Munich's Allianz Arena next year.

But Jupp Heynckes, the man he is to replace, is not planning on asking the Catalan for any advice.

Heynckes will no doubt also be hoping Real win through to the Wembley showdown, as a fitting way to bring down the curtain on his long and distinguished coaching career against the side he

led to the European crown in 1998, when he brought the Madrid giants their first title in the competition in more than 30 years.

Bayern, having comprehensively dispatched Juventus in the last round, again have home advantage first but are unlikely to find the Barca defence as porous as the Italians, who shipped four goals without reply over the two legs.

However, if they are to reach their third final in four years, Bayern will have to do so without the services of leading scorer Mario Mandzukic, who is suspended for the first leg.

Barcelona, in their sixth semi-final in as many years, showed just how reliant they are on World Footballer of the Year Lionel Messi in their hard-fought quarter-final tri-

umph over Paris Saint Germain, eventually prevailing on away goals.

But they needed the less-than-fully-fit Messi to come off the bench in the second leg in Barcelona to orchestrate the equaliser on the night that saw them through.

While the neutral may think they've been given a kind draw, Jose Mourinho's Real are unlikely to relish the thought of another trip to Dortmund in this season's competition.

In the group stages, the Germans overran Real 2-1 and then earned a deserved 2-2 draw in Madrid to finish top of the group.

And the way Real struggled to overcome game Galatasaray, losing the away leg 3-2, while Dortmund were getting the better of another Spanish side

Malaga with two late goals, will doubtless set the alarm bells ringing in the Spanish capital.

"We respect Borussia Dortmund and I need to say that we played them twice already this season and weren't able to beat them, so eliminating them will not be easy," former Real striker and now the club's director of institutional relations Emilio Butragueno was keen to stress.

There is also the little matter of the bitter memory of their last German semi-final opponents, Bayern, who beat them on penalties at the same stage of the competition last season.

The first leg matches will be played on April 23 and 24, with the return games on April 30 and May 1, with the final at Wembley stadium in London on May 25.

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NBA: High-flying Bulls snap Knicks win streak

CHICAGO (AFP) - Nate Robinson led the way with 35 points as the Chicago Bulls used a balanced attack to beat New York 118-111 in overtime late Thursday, snapping the Knicks' 13-game win streak.

Robinson also drained five three pointers for the Bulls who spoiled another superb scoring performance by Knicks star forward Carmelo Anthony.

A half dozen Bulls reached double figures in scoring, including Jimmy Butler and Carlos Boozer, who each recorded double-doubles with 22 points and 14 rebounds and 13 points and 15 boards respectively.

Luol Deng chipped in with 16 points for the Bulls who became the second team in league history to halt two 13-



Carmelo Anthony #7 of the New York Knicks is pressured by Jimmy Butler #21 (L) and Nate Robinson #2 of the Chicago Bulls

plus win streaks in the same season, joining the 1990-91 Phoenix Suns. On March 27, Chicago snapped the Miami Heat's dynamic 27-game winning streak.

Deng, who had missed the previous two games due to injury, also had eight rebounds, while Richard Hamilton and Kirk Hinrich had 14 and 11 points, respectively.

Anthony scored 36 points and extends his 36-point plus scoring streak to six games. The last player to achieve that was future Hall of Famer Kobe Bryant, of the Lakers, who had nine straight games of 36-plus in 2003.

J.R. Smith finished with 28 points and 14 rebounds, while Anthony grabbed a season-high 19 rebounds for the

Knicks, who defeated Washington on Tuesday to clinch the Atlantic Division title for the first time since 1994.

New York was hoping for its longest winning streak since a 15-game run from March 1 to April 2, 1994.

The Bulls also completed a four-game sweep of the Knicks this season, and have now won 12 of the last 16 contests between the clubs.

Chicago is 23-17 at home this season and will begin a three-game road trip Friday against Toronto, Miami and Orlando.

The Knicks suffered their first loss since March 17 against the Los Angeles Clippers. They will also visit Cleveland on this brief road trip.

Curacao to be well continued from page 16



So with more than 40 cars coming from abroad this promises to be the biggest drag strip event ever organized on Aruba's Palo Marga Drag Strip.

The only problem it seems is that there are not enough flights available for all the drivers and fans that are planning to travel from Curacao to Aruba, as available flights are

already fully booked for the end of the month. Some are even chartering yachts to be able to still make it to Palo Marga's 30th anniversary celebration.

Maybe the airlines will make some extra flights available in the upcoming days so that everyone interested can still be here? Drag race fans keep your fingers crossed!

Report: MLB pays to gain access to clinic documents

--In an unprecedented move, Major League Baseball reportedly has purchased documents from a former employee of Biogeneis that link players to performance-enhancing drugs sold by the South Florida clinic. The New York Times, citing two sources briefed on the events, reported at least one player with ties to the clinic has paid for documents to be destroyed. The player's effort was to keep the clinic's documents away from the MLB investigators. Meanwhile, the sources said MLB officials bought the other documents to avoid having more players paying to have them destroyed. MLB has no subpoena power and has been unable to claim documents through judicial means. Also, the Times reported MLB has paid former employees who have cooperated with the investigation.

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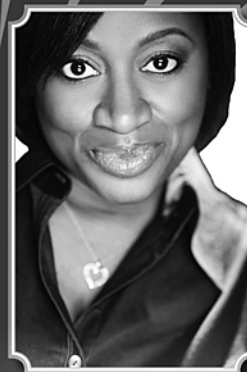
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Curacao to be well presented at the 30th anniversary of Palo Marga drag strip on Aruba



--The drag racing excitement is brewing on sister island Curacao. The interest to come to Aruba to participate at the grand event on April 29th is very high as Aruba's Palo

Marga Drag Strip will be celebrating their 30th anniversary which promises to be a huge event. Reportedly there are more than 30 drivers interested to come to Aruba but

there is not enough space for all of them. The Boss Racing Foundation even chartered a complete boat to transport all the cars and motorbikes from Curacao to Aruba, this way guaranteeing that they will arrive on time on Aruba but also be shipped back on time to Curacao.

The end of this weekend all the drivers who got a chance with this shipment will be known.

It seems like Curacao also has two containers at hand specially to transport the motorbikes, among them the bikes of Crioyo Outlaw and Pro Bikes.

This event promises to big with drivers from Bonaire, St. Maarten, Puerto Rico, Bonaire, Curacao, Venezuela and our local drivers.

There are also 4 drift cars coming to join the celebration on April 29th at the Palo Marga Drag Strip.

Drifting is a driving technique where the driver intentionally over steers, causing loss of traction in the rear wheels, while maintaining control from entry to exit of a corner. A car is drifting when the rear slip angle is greater than the front slip angle, to



such an extent that often the front wheels are pointing in the opposite direction to the turn (e.g. car is turning left, wheels are pointed right or vice versa).

As a motorsport discipline,

professional drifting competitions are held worldwide and are judged according to the speed, angle and line taken through a corner or set of corners.

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